

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06

NEA-10 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-02 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00

COME-00 AGR-05 IGA-01 OIC-02 /117 W

----- 003404

R 301613Z JUL 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5025

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION OECD PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 6059

EO: 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN ECOSOC: PREPARATIONS FOR 7TH SPECIAL SESSION --

US/G77 CONSULTATIONS

REF: STATE 170834

1. SUMMARY: US ACHIEVED GOAL OF AVOIDING CONFRONTATION AND DETAILED COMMENTARY ON G-77 POSITION PAPER IN INFORMAL CONSULTATION. OPEN ENVIRONMENT AND DISCREET SUPPORT FOR MODERATES MAINTAINED. RELATIONS WITH THREE ALLIES SOMEWHAT STRAINED. END SUMMARY.

2. AMB FERGUSON OPENED CONSULTATIONS WITH G-77 BY MAKING FOLLOW-ING POINTS: (A) USG MINDFUL OF G-77 REQUEST THAT COMMENTS BE IN WRITING AND CONCRETE COUNTER-PROPOSALS BE MADE. BUT, AFTER CARE-FUL STUDY OF POSITION PAPER AND PREVIOUS PAPERS, USG HAD CONCLUDED THERE WERE STILL FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES IN CONCEPTION AND ANAL-Y-SIS BETWEEN USG AND G-77 AND HENCE DETAILED PARA-BY-PARA COM-MENTARY WOULD NOT FURTHER THE PROCESS OF PREPARING FOR SESSION; (B) FERGUSON ASSERTED THAT USG RECOGNIZED ADD 1 AS A POLICY STATEMENT OF THE 77 AND IT WAS USEFUL IN IDENTIFYING THE PROBLEMS TO WHICH EFFORTS AT SOLUTION WOULD BE DIRECTED; (C) FERGUSON FURTHER AS-CONFIDENTIAL

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SERTED THAT WHILE AT THE MOMENT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH

CONSENSUS ON PAPER, NONETHELESS USG APPRECIATED FACT THAT GROUP HAD SEPARATED AGENDA ISSUE FROM THE SUBSTANTIVE PAPER AND HAD PRODUCED A CLEAN AGENDA ALONG LINES SUGGESTED BY USG IN ITS FIRST CONFERENCE ROOM PAPER; (D) FERGUSON CONCLUDED BY DRAWING GROUP'S ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT, UNLIKE MANY COUNTRIES PRESENT, POSITIONS TAKEN BY USG -- PARTICULARLY WHEN THEY WERE CHANGES FROM PRIOR POSITIONS AND PRACTICES -- REQUIRED THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT, CONGRESS AND PUBLIC OPINION.

3. DRAWING ON REFTEL AND SECRETARY'S SPEECHES, FERGUSON THEN SET FORTH USG INTENTIONS WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON FACT THAT PROPOSALS AND INITIATIVES WOULD COME AT THE TIME OF THE 7TH SS ITSELF.

4. IN EXCHANGES AFTER PRESENTATION, JAMACIAN REP OPENED DISCUSSION BY ASKING FERGUSON TO SPECIFY "THOSE FUNDAMENTAL DIFFERENCES IN CONCEPTION" REFERRED TO IN OPENING PRESENTATION. FERGUSON REPLIED BY INDICATING THAT WHILE NOT EXPLICITLY SET FORTH IN G-77 PAPERS, THERE WERE THREE FUNDAMENTAL CONCEPTS ON WHICH USG DIFFERED FROM G-77. HE SPECIFIED THE THREE CONCEPTS AS: (A) CONCEPT OF INTERVENTION IN THE MARKET WHICH THE US DID NOT VIEW AS LEGITIMATE ECONOMIC TOOL FOR OTHER THAN REDRESSING SHORT-TERM PROBLEMS AND EMERGENCIES; (B) THE CONCEPT OF "AUTOMATICITY" BY WHICH FINANCIAL RESOURCES WERE TRANSFERRED IN ACCORDANCE WITH NON-MARKET FACTORS; AND, (C) THE CONCEPT OF REDISTRIBUTION OF PRESENT WEALTH RATHER THAN RE-ALLOCATING SHARES OF WEALTH AND INCOME OUT OF GROWTH. THERE FOLLOWED A RATHER LIVELY SEMINAR-TYPE DISCUSSION WHICH SEEMED TO INTRIGUE THE BRIGHTER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP BUT, MORE IMPORTANTLY, AVOIDED ANY DETAILED COMMENTARY ON G-77 PAPER.

5. VENEZUELAN REP RAISED THREE QUESTIONS: (A) DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INTEGRATED APPROACH AND CASE-BY-CASE; (B) US POSITION ON INDEXATION; AND, (C) NATURE OF ACTION GA COULD TAKE. FERGUSON REPLIED BY INDICATING CASE-BY-CASE APPROACH DERIVED FROM US EXPERIENCE IN PROBLEM-SOLVING AND, MORE PARTICULARLY, THE VERY WORDS CASE-BY-CASE REFERRED TO THE METHOD THE LEGAL PROFESSION HAD CREATED FOR PROBLEM-SOLVING. HE STATED US POSITION WAS TO SOLVE ONE CASE FIRST, THEN SECOND AND THIRD, AND AT THAT POINT TO SEE FROM AN EXAMINATION OF SOLUTIONS WHETHER OR NOT A GENERAL PRINCIPLE EMERGED WHICH MIGHT BE USEFUL IN SOLVING CASES FOUR, FIVE AND SIX TO FOLLOW. HE CONTRASTED WHAT HE PERCEIVED TO BE G-77 POSITION

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OF ESTABLISHING A GENERAL PRINCIPLE AND THEN ATTEMPTING TO FORCE ALL SOLUTIONS TO FIT THE GENERAL PRINCIPLE. ON INDEXATION, FERGUSON SAID THAT HE BELIEVED NOBODY WANTED INDEXATION AS SUCH BUT RATHER AS A TOOL TO ACHIEVE AN OBJECTIVE. IF THE OBJECTIVE WAS TO MAINTAIN AND STABILIZE LEVELS OF EXPORT EARNINGS, THEN USG BELIEVED NOT ONLY WOULD INDEXATION NOT WORK BUT IT ALSO INTERFERED WITH RATIONAL GROWTH, WHICH TENDED TO FREEZE PRESENT PRACTICES AND WOULD MIS-DIRECT RESOURCE ALLOCATION. ON

THIRD QUESTION FERGUSON REFERRED VENEZUELAN REP TO JULY 4 SPEECH
ON ROLE AND FUNCTION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

6. ALGERIA RAISED TWO SUBSTANTIAL QUESTIONS: (A) WHETHER USG
CONTEMPLATED SOLUTIONS OUTSIDE THE UN SYSTEM, AND (2) WHO ARE THE
POOR IN THE US VIEW THAT SHOULD BE GIVEN SPECIAL CONSIDERATION?
ON FIRST QUESTION FERGUSON AGAIN REFERRED REP TO JULY 4 SPEECH.
ON THE QUESTION OF THE POOR, FERGUSON ANSWERED THAT US HAD NOT YET
DEvised CRITERIA, BUT QUITE CLEARLY WHO IS POOR IS VERY COMPLEX
ISSUE SINCE COUNTRIES MAY BE POOR FOR ONE PURPOSE, E.G., BALANCE
OF PAYMENTS, AND NOT POOR FOR OTHER PURPOSES, E.G., HUMAN RESOURC-
ES. HE SUGGESTED THAT EVENTUALLY THERE WOULD BE A FUNCTIONAL LIST
DEPENDING UPON THE NATURE OF THE PROBLEMS OF THE PARTICULAR COUNT-
RY.

7. IVORY COAST CONFINED ITS TWO INQUIRIES ABOUT US POSITION ON COM-
MODITY AGREEMENTS IN GENERAL AND ON COCOA, COFFEE AND SUGAR IN
PARTICULAR. FERGUSON RESPONDED BY DRAWING ON INSTRUCTIONS IN
REFTEL.

8. COMMENT. SESSION, WHICH LASTED TWO AND ONE-HALF HOURS, CON-
DUCTED IN MANNER TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVE OF MAINTAINING OPEN NEGO-
TIATING ENVIRONMENT AND AVOIDING TAKING POSITIONS ON G-77 PAPER
WHILE MAKING IT CLEAR THAT NO CONSENSUS ON PAPER WAS POSSIBLE.

9. MOST REACTIONS FROM OTHER DELS WERE GENERALLY ENTHUSIASTIC
WITH CONTRATULATIONS ON CANDOR AND NOT TRYING TO PULL WOOL OVER
EYES OF G-77. MANY DELS DESCRIBED USG PERFORMANCE AS BRILLIANT.
JAMAICA NOTED, HOWEVER, PERFORMANCE WAS MOST BRILLIANT EXAMPLE OF
DEFENDING NEGATIVE POSITION.

10. AS ANTICIPATED, STRAINS ARE DEVELOPING WITH JAPANESE, CANADA,
AND UK ON THE ISSUE OF A WRITTEN SUMMARY OF REMARKS. AMB FERGU-
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SON HAS INDICATED HE IS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS NOT TO CIRCULATE WRIT-
TEN DOCUMENTS AT THIS TIME. DEPARTMENT MAY HEAR FURTHER, PARTI-
CULARLY FROM JAPANESE, ON THIS ISSUE. END COMMENT.DALE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, PLANNING MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, RELATIONS WITH REGIONAL ORGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GENEVA06059
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750263-0751
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975079/aaaaahuz.tel
Line Count: 157
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 170834
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <28 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PREPARATIONS FOR 7TH SPECIAL SESSION US/G77 CONSULTATIONS
TAGS: EGEN, US, UN, ECOSOC, GROUP OF 77
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006